

Serial No. 10/015,525

substance of this invention. Such modifications, equivalents or variations of the sealing means as would be suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art, based on the present disclosure, are therefore incorporated herein.

Version with no markings

In addition, this embodiment of the invention shows a marginal aspect of the collection device as a sealable edge, such that after the nasal secretions have been blown into the collection device, the nasal secretions may be isolated from contact with external surfaces. The seal may be created by any of a number of means known in the art, such as by means of a "ZIPLOC"™ means, wherein a first edge of the sealable margin comprises a strip of material which fits into a groove on the second edge of the sealable margin, thereby sealing the contents within the collection device. Alternatively, a fold-over sealing flap may seal the marginal edge of the collection device through which the patient inserts their nose to deposit nasal secretions. The fold-over flap may itself have a pressure-sensitive adhesive strip disposed thereon, such that upon folding the flap over the edge into which the nose is placed and then removed, after deposit of nasal secretion, the flap may be made to seal on an external surface adjacent the opening. Alternate means for sealing the collection device may be employed without departing from the substance of this invention. Such modifications, equivalents or variations of the sealing means as would be suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art, based on the present disclosure, are therefore incorporated herein.

Delete the paragraph at page 28, lines 6-16 and replace with the following paragraph:

In yet a further embodiment of this invention, the reactive reagents, whether directly applied to a surface of the collection device or placed in the collection device in the form of a reagent strip, it may be beneficial for the reactive reagents to be physically separated by a separation means until such time as the analysis is to be conducted. If the analysis is to be conducted right away, upon collection of nasal secretion, the barrier may be removed or perforated, so that nasal secretion may contact the reagent pads. If the analysis is to be conducted some time after collection of the nasal secretion, the barrier means may be left intact, and removed only when the analysis is to be conducted. Alternative means for creating such a barrier include the possibility of including a fold in the collection device, a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOC™ feature, a breakable barrier or the like, separating the main chamber of the collection device from the reactive reagents.